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# Roots and Branches

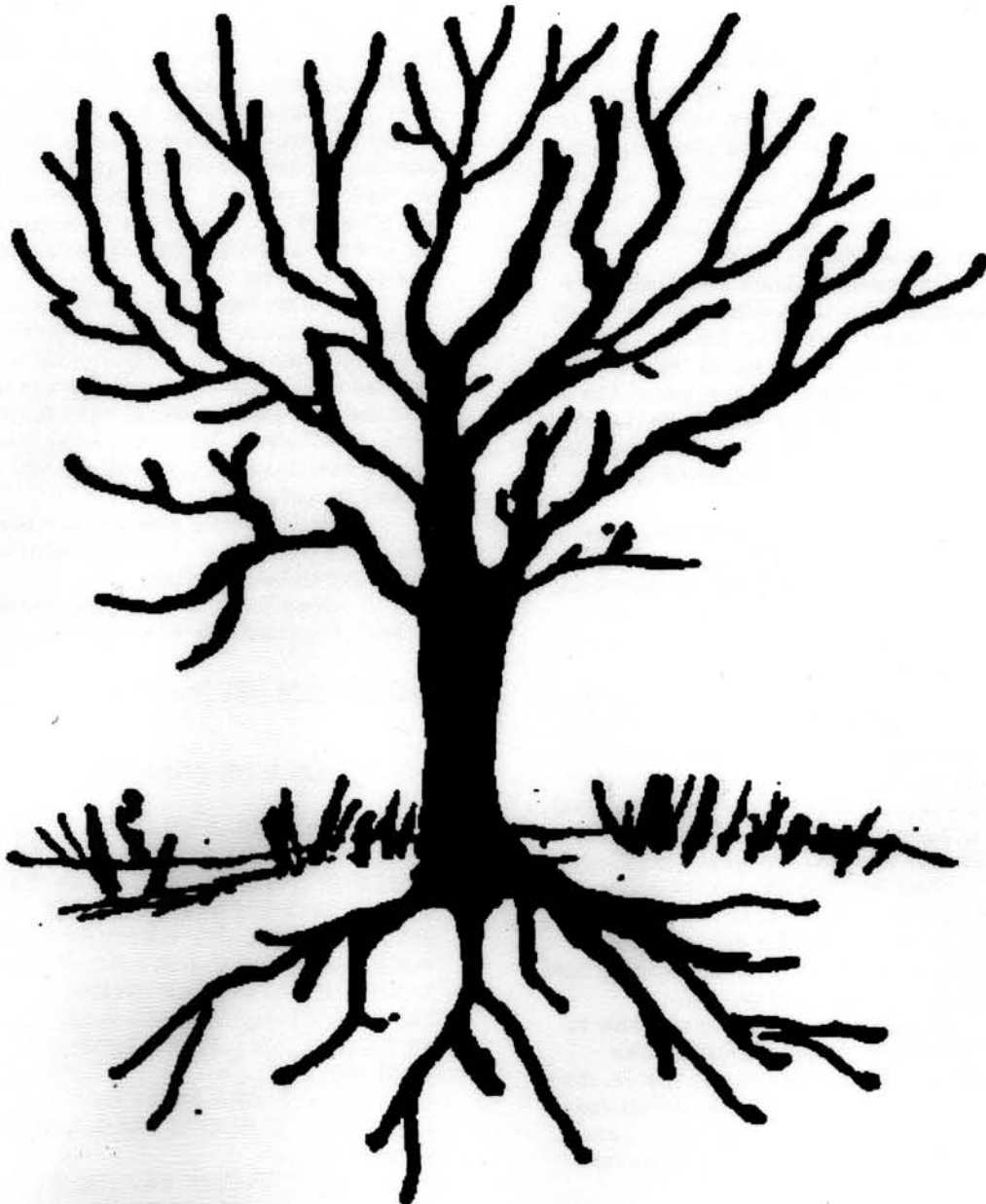
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Volume 5 Issue 2

September 1996

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROOTS & BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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**IMPOSSIBLE SEARCH**

About eight years ago my daughter Sue and I began a search that we really did not expect to be fruitful.

In 1952 my husband, James and his first wife became parents of a baby boy. But at the same time, their marriage went sour and he was drafted into the army. Due to some unfortunate circumstances, his wife filed for divorce and later let the baby be adopted out.

Two years later, we married and eventually raised five children of our own. Many times over the past forty years James remarked to me that he had not tried to stop the adoption when he heard about it, as he had no wife, no money and no one to care for the baby while he completed his term in the service. Still he never stopped wondering where and how Jim Jr. was.

One year, as James's birthday was approaching, I thought what a gift it would be for him if we could find Jim Jr. Not wanting to get his hopes up we did not tell Jim about our search. We just asked him a few questions to get our search on the road. Due to a very fortunate situation James had been informed of the surname of the adoptive parents.

Sue searched for about four years with my pitiful attempts to help, but could find nothing. As the adoption records were sealed and the clerk at the court house would not let us look at the divorce records without James being with us.

A second trip to New York revealed that during the late 1950's there had been two families in that area with the same surname of the adoptive parents, but they had both moved out of the area in the early 1960's. However this did give us a good lead as to the full name of the adoptive parents.

Then one day Sue stumbled on a public document that we believed to be the legal name of Jim Jr. She did a lot more searching before we were able to conclude that this was in fact the right person.

A few weeks later Sue was able to locate Jim Jr.'s adoptive mother. She informed us she had never told Jim Jr. that he was adopted and she would prefer that we not contact him. Not wanting to cause Jim Jr. any problems we left it alone for about six months.

Finally Sue wanted to find out if Jim, Jr. really knew about the adoption or not, so she decided to try to contact Jim Jr.'s wife. After introducing herself but not stating as to why, Sue inquired as to whether her husband (Jim Jr.) might have been adopted as a baby, leaving little of a chance that he

may not know, or that this could be possibly the wrong person. She told us that Jim Jr. had learned about the adoption earlier that year through a member of his adoptive family who had apparently always resented him. She and Jim were separated but still on good terms and she said she would contact him for us. Sue left her phone number for Jim Jr. to contact us if he was interested in meeting us. Now all we could do was wait.

Now Sue and her sister felt that James should be aware of our find. He was thrilled and to our pleasure Jim Jr. made contact in just a few days and was very anxious to meet his biological family. He was shocked to learn that he had a very large family of brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles and cousins. He had always thought he was the youngest of two and found he was actually the oldest of six. To everyone's amazement we had all been living very close to one another for some time.

Yes we found Jim Jr. Right here in Orlando, Florida, but he had formerly lived in DeLand (where we contacted his wife) and in Lake Helen. How amazed we were to find that not only had we moved here from New York in 1971, but Jim Jr.'s family had moved here from Pennsylvania in 1977. How is that for coincidence.

So don't ever give up your search, and don't overlook a situation which seems to bizarre to be plausible

Good Luck to all of you that may still be searching and don't ever give up.

(Submitted by Lillian Shaefer)

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**FROM THE EDITOR**

Once again we did not receive material for "My favorite Ancestor" section. But we did receive the article "Impossible Search" from Lillian Shaefer which is the featured article this month. Thank you Lillian.

This month will be the last in which we will have the Happy Birthday column in its present format. Instead we would like to personalize the birthdays more by soliciting short articles about the person or persons we are wishing Happy Birthday.

We are requesting a 100-200 word article about the ancestor you want to say Happy Birthday to. The article may be one in which you tell about the lineage from that ancestor to yourself or another member of your family. It might also be a story about that ancestor that describes him or her and describes an incident or period in his or her life. A possible example follows the Happy Birthday column in this issue.

We will be starting two additional features in our next issue.

**1. QUERIES**

Several members have asked if we could start printing Queries in our Newsletter. We will be accepting Queries from MEMBERS only to be entered in subsequent Newsletters. We plan to issue a Newsletter in Sept., Dec., Mar. & June and Queries will be accepted for publication anytime up to the meeting before the next scheduled Newsletter. Queries should be submitted on 3x5 cards and be limited to 60 words or less (Address will not count in the 60 word limit). An example of a Query is found on Page 3 of this Newsletter.

**2. SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED BY MEMBERS**

Any member who wishes to submit surnames they are researching will have their surnames included in this column. We already have some of this information in the Index of the 5 Generation charts a lot of you have submitted, but this feature will allow you to share this information with members who do not come to the library or who do not use the 5 generation charts. This feature will also start in December if enough interest is shown by our receiving names. An example of the type of information we would like for this column is found on Page 3.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
JULY-SEPT.**

- JUL. 2, 1877.....WILLIAM B. SMITH
- JUL. 4, 1777.....ELIZABETH P. HEDDEN
- JUL. 7, 1862.....SEBORN ELEY
- JUL. 11, 1871.....MYRTLE L. WISE
- JUL. 13, 1828WILLIAM M. WOODWORTH
- JUL. 21, 1882..SOLOMON C. HODDINOTT
- JUL. 30, 1862.....THOMAS H. WOOD
- AUG. 4, 1791.....JOHANNES HOFFMAN
- AUG. 9, 1824.....MARION BREWER
- AUG. 16, 1854.....SUSAN A. PRATT
- AUG. 17, 1860.....ELIZA J. DOOLITTLE
- AUG. 22, 1831.....MARY E. HODGES
- AUG. 24, 1873.....WILLIE S. SLAYDON
- AUG. 28, 1859...FREDERICK O. WALLACE
- SEPT. 2, 1846.....RUTH E. TERRY
- SEPT. 3, 1865...MARGARET A. ALLAMON
- SEPT. 3, 1876.....WILLIAM J. STORY
- SEPT. 18,1739.....ELIZABETH STRIBLING
- SEPT. 20,1868.....HORACE O. STAUFFER
- SEPT. 25,1818.....MARION YEURY

(example)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
5TH. GREAT GRANDFATHER ISRAEL**

Israel White was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania on June 6, 1761. He probably accompanied his elder brother, "Red" David White to the Tenmile Country as early as 1774, and settled on Smith Creek where he warranted a tract of land under the title of "Rich Hill". Israel White served in Captain James Archer's Company of Washington County Militia in the War of the Revolution. During an alarm caused by the Indians in the year of 1784, many of the settlers had fled to Fort Jackson for safety, including Israel White. Thomas Slater's family, who lived close to the fort was among those who sought safety on this occasion, and his daughter, Sarah, decided there could be no more fitting time for a wedding, so she and Israel White were married on this auspicious occasion. (THE TEN MILE COUNTRY AND ITS PIONEER FAMILIES P.397)Howard L.Leckey.

Israel and Sarah had ten children and the last was a son Issac who married, first, Jane Shriver who had four children the second being a daughter who married Israel Lemley, who was the father of Bazel Lemley who in turn was the father of Dora Lemley and the grandmother of the Editor of this Newsletter.

MISCELLANY

In the fall of 1996, PBS plans to present a 10-episode program, ANCESTORS. This series will provide principals and knowledge that should enable novices and experienced genealogists to conduct successful research. The series was developed through cooperation of libraries and societies across the country, in addition to leading genealogists. However, Ancestors has not been totally funded. The producers are relying on the generosity of individuals and societies to help sponsor the program. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to: Ancestors, c/o KBYU Television, 2000 Ironton Blvd., Provo, UT 84606. You may follow what's going on with the project by visiting on the World Wide Web at <http://kbyuwww.byu.edu/ancestor.htm>.

Kindred Spirits via Forsyth Co.Gen.Soc.Newsletter via Florida State Gen.Society,Inc Newsletter Dec. 1995

**New Sections:**

**Members Searching Surnames:**

If you wish to contribute to this section submit your names in the following format on a 3X5 card.

**Example:**

CALVIN, HAROLD W.(c 1900-1960);  
s/o ? CALVIN & WOODS, SADIE (c 1875-194?) New York, New Jersey.

Submitted by Thomas H. Calvin 43 Fairway Drive, DeBary, FL 32713

**Queries:** Members have requested a Query section. Queries are accepted from members only, and shall be submitted on a 3X5 index card, keeping to 60 words or less.

**Example:**

**KERR** Need info. on Jesse F. Kerr b:1876 m. Dora Lemley Dec. 1896. Where did they go after marriage? Was daughter Margaret Elizabeth born in Greene Co.?

Thomas H. Calvin 43 Fairway Drive DeBary FL 32713

(address will not count towards 60 word limit)

Queries and Surname Search forms should be submitted at monthly meetings or mailed to Thomas H. Calvin C/O Roots & Branches PO Box 612 Deland FL

**WHAT WAR DID YOUR ANCESTORS SERVE IN?**

1676 Bacon's Rebellion.

If they were born between 1626-1656 they may have served in Bacon's Rebellion

1689-1765 Intercolonial Wars

If they were born between 1639-1743 they may have served in the Intercolonial Wars.

1763-1765 Pontiac's Rebellion

If they were born between 1713-1743 they may have served in the Pontiac's Rebellion Wars.

1775-1783 American Revolution

If they were born between 1720-1763 they may have served in the American Revolution War

1790-1811 Indian Wars

If they were born between 1740-1781 they may have served in the Indian Wars

1812-1815 War of 1812

If they were born between 1762-1794 they may have served in the War of 1812.

1832 Blackhawk War

If they were born between 1782-1812 they may have served in the Blackhawk War.

1846-1848 Mexican War

If they were born between 1796-1828 they may have served in the Mexican War.

1861-1865 Civil War

If they were born between 1806-1845 they could have served in the Civil War.

The Quest FL Chapter Ohio Gen. Soc.  
Jan-Feb. 1996

BOARD MEMBERS

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1st. Vice Pres.....Leymoyn Melchner  
2nd.Vice Pres.....Mary Lois Kelley  
Rec.Secr.....Rosemary Sutton  
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Past Pres.....Albert Little  
Book Comm. Chair.....Bette Lane  
Editor- Newsletter.....Thomas H. Calvin

(Picture framed hair owned 1984 by  
Marjorie (Stubbs) Heaney)  
Hair of Neighbors in the town of  
West Nottingham NH in 1845

Abigail Knowlton...Deborah Batchelder.  
Joseph Colcord...Hannah B. Huckings...  
Salley Furber...Martha Furber...Mary  
Swain...Gideon Batchelder... Sophia B.  
Palmer  
...(first row of cloverleaf shaped hair) James  
Thompson...Angelline Bruce...James Marsh...  
Mary A. Marsh...Catherine B. Marsh...  
Samuel E. Marsh...Charles G.Marsh...  
George J. Marsh...David Marsh...  
(second row of cloverleaf hair) Betsy  
Marsh...John F. Demerritt..Timothy  
Demerritt...Deborah Demerritt...John  
Demerritt...Artamissa Demerritt...Joseph  
Dame...Mary Dame...Sally W. Evans...  
(third row of cloverleaf shaped hair) Lovina  
Demerritt.Thomas J. Priest..True W.  
Priest...Hannah Bunker..H.J.Richardson..  
Mary S. Daniels...Levi B. Tasker...Abigail  
Brown...D.W.Pratt...  
(forth row of cloverleaf shaped hair)  
L.Furber...Lovina Furber...Sally Newhall...  
M.E.Batchelder...Elizabeth Marsh.  
(fifth row of cloverleaf shaped hair)  
E.Fogg...Washington Marsh... Samuel  
Levitt...Sally Caswell...N.R. Green  
(sixth row of cloverleaf shaped hair)..  
Nancy Dame...H.G.G....J.B.Garland...  
L.Randall...J.S.D....George Haley...Betsy J  
Haley...Lorinda Carswell...J. Garland...B.  
Smith...H.F....D.Durgin..  
(end of hair).

Poem Included:

Where shall my grave be. where,  
And can one heart be found  
That doth a human impress bear,  
And treads this beings narrow bound  
That hath not looked oer earth's wide face  
And sought to find its resting place,  
No matter where we lie  
Together or apart,  
Whether our friends or foes be nigh  
Yet it seems Pleasant to the heart  
To claim a fellowship of clay  
With those we loved in beings day.  
Yet may my last abode  
Be where a loving hand  
May deck with flowers my burial sod.,  
And make the spot a pleasant land  
For souls to rest in when they hold  
Communion as in days of old.

Unsigned

Hair of: Joseph S. Dame and his wife  
Mary Ann(Crawford) Dame. Parents of  
Mary J. Dame who married Hiram  
William Randall grandparents of  
Marjorie Stubbs Heaney.

Father's Gift

You got it from your Father, it was all he  
had to give.  
So it's yours to use and cherish, for as long  
as you may live.  
If you lose the watch he gave you, it can  
always be replaced.  
But a BLACK MARK on your name, son  
can never be erased.  
It was clean the day you took it, and a  
worthy name to bear.  
When he got it from his father, there was  
no dishonor there.  
So make sure you guard it wisely, after all  
is said and done.  
You'll be glad the name is spotless, when  
you give it to your son.

Author Unknown.

The Stubbs Schooner of News, Feb. 1988

Kerr-Lemley Wedding

A prominent social event, of the  
holiday season, occurred at the Walton  
House, Waynesburg Pa. Dec. 29, 1896 at  
which time Mr. Jesse F. Kerr of Carmichaels  
and Miss Dora Lemley of Kirby, Greene  
County was united in holy matrimony. The  
marriage ceremony was performed by Rev.  
John McMinn of Jefferson. Two beautiful  
wedding marches were played by Ned  
Walton.

The groom is a young merchant of  
brilliant intellect and sterling worth. The  
bride is the daughter of Bazel Lemley, and is  
one of Greene County's most popular and  
successful school teachers. A delightful inair  
reception and dinner were given at the home  
of the groom. The hearty congratulations  
and wishes for a long life of happiness and  
prosperity is extended by the Republican to  
the young people.

The Washington Republican Thursday Dec.  
31, 1896.  
(Weekly paper) Waynesburg Pa.

## The Inevitable Laws of Genealogy

The records you need for your family history were in the courthouse that burned.

John, son of Thomas, the immigrant whom your relatives claim as immigrant ancestor, died on board ship at the age of twelve.

The public ceremony in which your distinguished ancestor participated in when the platform under him collapsed turned out to be a hanging.

Records show that the grandfather, whom the family boasted, "He read the Bible at four years and graduated from college at sixteen," was at the foot of his class.

Your grandmother's maiden name for which you searched for years was on an old letter in a box in the attic all the time.

When at last you have solved the mystery of the skeleton in the closet the tight lipped spinster aunt claimed, "I could have told you that all the time."

You never asked your father about his family because you weren't interested in genealogy while he was alive.

The family story your grandmother wrote for the family never got past the typist. She packed it away "somewhere" and promised to send a copy, but never did.

A relative who had all the family photographs gave them to her daughter who had no interest in genealogy and no inclination to share.

A great-uncle changed his surname because he was teased in school. He moved away, left no address, and was never heard from again.

Brittle old newspapers containing the information you desired have fallen apart on the names and dates and places.

The only record you find on your great-grandfather is that his property was sold at a sheriff's sale for insolvency.

The portion of the index you need is continued in the next issue, only the publisher died prior to publication.

When you find the obituary for your grandmother, the information is garbled. Her name is exchanged with her daughter's the whereabouts of her sons is unknown, the date for her father's birth indicates he was younger than she.

The only surname not found among the three billion in the Mormon Archives is yours.

The vital records director sends you a negative reply, having just been insulted by a creep calling himself a genealogist.

The 4 volume, 4,800 page history of the county where your great-grandfather lived is not indexed.

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Just to let you know that life was taken seriously in the "olden days" of Greene County, the following article as published in the Washington Observer, reported the major social activity of the winter of 1913.

### AFTER THE RATS AT KUHNSTON

Whole Community Is Engaged in Hunt To End January 3, 1914.

Waynesburg, Dec. 12 {1913} A big hunt has been organized at Kuhnstown which will end January 3, 1914. The community has been divided into two camps with Jesse Phillips the captain of one division and Allison King in charge of the other division. Each side has 40 members and all are out to slay all the rats in the community. The evening the hunt ends a big supper will be held at the I.O.O.F/ Hall at Kuhnston. The supper will be open to the public and oysters and other edibles will be served. The losers in the rat hunt will pay for the suppers of the winners at this supper. (The members of each team were listed in the original.)  
Cornerstone Clues vol. lxx Number 2  
May 1995 Cornerstone Genealogical Society. Waynesburg, Pa.

**Queries**

Queries should be submitted in the following format.

Ex. 1.

SMITH, Harriet b 1841 d 1921, wife of Thomas HENDERSON b 1828 ,d 1929. Seek par/o Harriet, sibs, any info.. PATTERSON, Augustas, b ?, married Margaret E. Kerr abt. 1926 New York City was Language Professor

Harry Patterson, 414 State Street Albany NY

Ex. 2.

MURPHY: Seek info./on Peter Murphy, son of Willam who left Ireland in 1764 and settled in New York city and was wounded at battle of Saratoga. Married Abigail Clancy in 1773.

John Murphy, 1776 Street anywhere USA.

(Both of the above are written as examples only)

**SURNAMES BEING SEARCHED FOR BY MEMBERS**

Ex. 1. SMITH, BROWN, JONES, New York, New Jersey, 1865-1890  
Mary Smith 43 Ocean Dr. Portsmouth Maine.

Ex. 2. White, Slater, Sharpnack, Rice,; Greene County Pa., 1700-1823  
Richard Makebelive-Anywhere Texas.

As we receive Queries or Surnames being searched they will be published in Newsletter and a file maintained for use in library.

**ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR GERMAN ANCESTORS?**

The Florida Genealogical Society Newsletter of December 1995 contains the following information.

Member Nancy Evers passes along this bit of information learned from a seminar she and husband, Richard attended this summer. "The German Card" developed by the Sacramento Society, PO Box 660061, Sacramento, CA. 95886-0061, is an unusual research aid. It is a laminated, four paneled, hinged card that folds up to credit card size and can be carried at all times to use in examining old German documents in libraries and archives.

Around the edges of the card is the old German script alphabet, upper and lower case, printed and cursive, and arranged in such a manner that any letter of the alphabet can be held under the word or letter being deciphered.

There are other bits of information shown; German genealogy symbols used in German records: rules and code for the Soundex system related to the 1880-1920 censuses: kinds of immigration found in U.S. censuses 1850-1920, dates of German civil records, German genealogy resources, and a basic German vocabulary for German genealogy research.

Send check for \$3.00 payable to SGGS at address shown above, and a long SASE, if you want to purchase one.

ROOTS AND BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 1996-97 CARD NUMBERS

Name	Number	Name	Number
THOMAS H. CALVIN	1	SUSAN CAPPS	44
ROSEMARY SUTTON	2	DOROTHY WEICHMAN	45
MARY LOIS KELLEY	3	SALLEE HARDY	46
LEMOYNE MEICHNER	4	KEITH MACPHERSON	47
MALCOLM & BETTE LANE	5	HENRY NIXON	48
G.ROBERT & MARILOU FOX	6	ELMA CHAFFIN	49
IRENE STYFFE	7	JOHN SWEARINGER	50
SUSAN SUMMERVILLE	8	GORDON NEFF	51
KATHLEEN AMMON	9	VERLAND BELT	52
DOROTHY T. GRANTHAM	10	JEANNE PRINCE	53
MILDRED PFORR YOUNG	11	ELAINE FRITZ	54
JEAN & MORT ALLREAD	12	HOWARD & LOIS VICK	55
LARRY & JOAN BOWEN	13	ROBERT & ETHEL BLAND	56
EDWARD & HELEN BRINDLE	14	JUDITH A WARRENSFORD	57
CAROL A. FERRARA	15	JEANNE M. REESER	58
AL & MARY GAEDE	16	AMY JEAN HANSCOM	59
MARJORIE S. HEANEY	17	THELMA E. HUYETT	60
ARLENE B. LIGGETT	18	DALE BARNHART & EVELYN	61
BILL & CAROL MARKERT	19		
DONNA S. POOLE	20		
ROBERT & JEAN WEAVER	21		
GEORGE W. WILLIAMS	22		
BOLINGER,RALPH & FAITH	23		
CHRISTOPHER & JENNIFER TANNER	24		
DONNA SAUNDERS	25		
BERNARD & ALICE ROBINSON	26		
JOE McCANN	27		
STANLEY & MARIE FELDMAN	28		
GERALD & FRANCIS BOWEN	29		
BYRON H GIBSON	30		
CHESTER & MILDRED POOLE	31		
JUDITH OTTO	32		
HERBERT PRICE	33		
GERALDINE HERSCH	34		
WALTER C. POUNDS	35		
LEONA PAIGE	36		
LOUISE B. CACCAMISE	37		
SHIRLEY BISHOP	38		
RALPH & LAURA PACEY	39		
FANNIE F. COLLINS	40		
FRANCES H. LEWIS	41		



LOCAL SYNOPTICALS

"Some important news of the past week"  
VOLUSIA COUNTY RECORD 3/27/1897

The bicycle park in DeLand is a fixed fact, for Councilman Miller has the matter in charge.

Mrs. Mayberger was unable to ride a wheel at the first attempt and received painful injuries from a fall.

The war against the Christians in Crete still continues, by the civilized powers of Europe, and the liberty lovers of Cuba is still carried on with all its accustomed barbarities "by Her Most Catholic Majesty" the Queen Of Spain.

9/18/1897

If reports are true, from Washington. President McKinley is preparing to either make Spain agree to the independence of Cuba, or to fight. And of course Spain will accept the latter, as it is her last chance to retire as having been whipped by the big United States then to suffer national humiliation, that she couldn't whip a handful of rebellious subjects in Cuba.

They are telling a little story about Czar Reed at the expense of a number of senators. According to the story, the Czar, just before the meeting of the extra session, attended a dinner party where the guests were nearly all senators, some of whom were expressing direful forebodings about what would happen to Senatorial dignity when "Billy Mason, with his free and easy manners, entered the body. The Czar finally tired at that sort of thing, and turning to the senators asked in that exasperating drawl, which he doesn't drop into so often in the house as he used to: "Do you think Mason will stay in the Senate long enough to become as dull as the rest of you?"

3/27/1897

Van Horn & Godfrey Cash Price List

Granulated Sugar 20 pounds	\$ 1.00
Corn Meal per 100 pounds	1.08
Tomatoes 3 lb. Can 3 for	1.00
Best Elgin Butter per lb.	.30
Best Bacon per lb.	.50
Pillsbury Flour per barrel	5.65
Best cream cheese per lb.	.16
Florida Syrup per gal.	.45
Best cider Vinegar per gal.	.35

4/3/1897

Mr. Stetson has been one of the greatest benefactors of DeLand. Everyone knows this, his money spent here especially his University, has been a great help to the place. But it is a great mistake to think DeLand is wholly dependent on the College. We have enough people here, well to do, and public spirited, to build a progressive city were there no University.

Advertisement 4/10/1897

John B. Stetson University  
DeLand Fl.

For both sexes, College, Normal School, Academy, Art School, and Conservatory of Music-an Institution of the first rank. Faculty of twenty-two teachers, Seven elegant buildings, heated by steam, lighted by electricity. Hot and cold water baths in Dormitories. Thoroughly Equipped Gymnasium, Department of Physical Culture, with Military Drill for young men. Library of 7,000 volumes. Reading room with leading home and foreign periodicals and the daily papers. Thoroughly equipped Chemical and Physical and Biological Laboratories. Separate buildings for Music and Art Schools, with artists of established reputations in charge. The new Monroe Health Museum of Natural History, Magnificent new brick Auditorium (built this year) seating over 1000 people, and garnished with the great pipe organ. New fireproofed Library Building (built this year), with capacity for 25000 volumes. Send for Catalogue giving full information to:

John F. Forbes, President DeLand Fl.  
(Next term begins Sept. 30 1897)

10/3/1897

Volusia County's total assessment for the year 1897 is \$3,095,000, or nearly \$100,000, in excess of the assessment for 1896. The total tax collected for 1897 upon this assessment is about \$57,000